

Message Text

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PM-07 SPC-03 L-03 H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 NSC-07 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 IO-14 DRC-01 CU-04

DEAE-00 EB-11 SY-10 SCI-06 NSF-04 NASA-04 ABF-01

TRSE-00 IGA-02 FBIE-00 USIA-15 SAM-01 /206 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3050

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 ANKARA 1678

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CENTO

SUBJ: ANNUAL WASHINGTON VISIT OF CENTO SYG ASSAR

REF: A. ANKARA 1315; B. ANKARA 1574; C. ANKARA 1634;
D. ANKARA 1654

BEGIN SUMMARY: FOLLOWING ARE OUR COMMENTS ON
SUBJECTS CENTO SYG ASSAR INTENDS TO RAISE WITH US OFFICIALS
DURING HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO WASHINGTON (REF A). END
SUMMARY.

1. AS A GENERAL OBSERVATION, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT ASSAR
IS A GO-GETTER WHO WILL TEND TO RUN FAR WITH ANY COMMITMENTS
OR ASSURANCES--EXPLICIT OR IMPLICIT-- WHICH HE RECEIVES.
HE IS TRYING TO MAKE THE CENTO ORGANIZATION AS SIGNIFICANT
AS POSSIBLE IN THE REGION'S AFFAIRS. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT
ASSAR BE KEPT WITHIN REASONABLE BOUNDS AS REGARDS HIS
INITIATIVES IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD.

2. POLITICAL:

A. THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

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ON CENTO AFFAIRS--IT WOULD BE ESPECIALLY HELPFUL IF US

OFFICIALS DESCRIBED TO ASSAR THE CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN AND PROSPECTS FOR ARAB-ISRAEL PEACE NEGOTIATIONS AND THE USG VIEW OF DETENTE. (IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT ASSAR PROBABLY WILL REPORT INDEPENDENTLY TO THE IRANIAN GOVT ANY ISSUES DISCUSSED UNDER THIS HEADING.)

B. THE SITUATION PAPER (REF B) AND THE POLITICAL GUIDANCE PAPER (REF C)-- AS POINTED OUT IN REF D, THE DIRECTIVES GIVEN IN THE POLITICAL GUIDANCE PAPER TO THE MILITARY PLANNERS COULD BE VERY TROUBLESOME. CENTO'S TRADITIONAL FOCUS HAS BEEN ON THE DIRECT AND OVERT SOVIET THREAT, BUT THESE NEW APPRAISALS AND GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS MAY, IF ARE NOT CAREFUL, DIRECT CENTO MILITARY ATTENTION TOWARDS CONTINGENCY PLANNING INVOLVING STRICTLY REGIONAL DISPUTES. THE SYG SHOULD BE CAUTIONED ABOUT THE DIRECTIONS THAT THE GUIDANCE PAPER MAY BE TAKING CENTO.

C. NEXT SYG--ASSAR HAS SAID NOTHING TO US ABOUT HIS PERSONAL PLANS, ALTHOUGH WE UNDERSTAND HE WILL WISH TO REMAIN AS SYG THROUGHOUT 1974; HOWEVER, BECAUSE SYGS ARE NORMALLY CONFIRMED AT ANNUAL MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, ASSAR MAY HAVE IN MIND THAT THE FORTHCOMING WASHINGTON MINISTERIAL IN MAY SHOULD APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF AN SYG FOR, SAY, FEBRUARY OF 1975. IT SHOULD BE PAKISTAN'S TURN TO TAKE THE SYG POSITION AND, BECAUSE OF BHUTTO'S ALTERED VIEW OF CENTO, AN APPOINTMENT OF A PAKISTANI MAY NOW BE MORE REALISTIC. THE MOST RECENT PAK AMB IN ANKARA, ENVER MURAD (WHO HAS JUST BEEN TRANSFERRED BACK TO ISLAMABAD) HAS INDICATED AN INTEREST IN THIS POST AND BOTH THE UK AMB AND I BELIEVE HE WOULD BE A GOOD CHOICE. IF THE SYG MENTIONS MURAD, WE BELIEVE DEPARTMENT SHOULD ENCOURAGE HIM TO EXPLORE MURAD'S CANDIDACY WITH PAK GOVT.

3. COUNTERSUBVERSION: THE EQUIPMENT REQUESTED BY THE THREE REGIONAL GOVTS IS ESTIMATED TO COST ABOUT \$400 THOUSAND. THE UK GOVT HAS MADE CLEAR IT CANNOT RPT CANNOT PROVIDE ANY EQUIPMENT BUT WILL ATTEMPT TO ASSIST REGIONAL COUNTRIES' SECRET

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COUNTERSUBVERSION ORGANIZATIONS WITH SOME TRAINING, AN IDEA WHICH THE UK AMB HAS PERSONALLY ENDORSED. THE US REP IN COMMITTEE SESSIONS HAS AGREED TO ASSIST WITH A GREATER EXCHANGE OF U.S. INFORMATION INCLUDING AN OFFER TO PROVIDE TRAINING BY US EXPERTS TO COS STAFF IN COLLATION AND ANALYSIS OF AVAILABLE INFO, REGARDS EQUIPMENT OR FUNDS. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT CIA/WASH HAS BEEN DISCUSSING THIS ISSUE OF COUNTER-SUBVERSION PROJECTS WITH INR ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ANY

USG PROVISION OF EQUIPMENT WOULD INVOLVE A COORDINATED EFFORT BY STATE, DOD, AND AID (AND POSSIBLY DEA).

3. ECONOMIC:

A. EXPLANATIONS ABOUT US REPLY TO SYG'S LETTER ON FUTURE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES--WE UNDERSTAND THAT AID ANKARA CENTO LIAISON OFFICER KURT TEIL CONSULTED FULLY LAST WEEK WITH AID OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON RE ANSWERS TO THE SYG'S QUESTIONS.

B. REMOTE SENSING PROJECT--WE IN ANKARA HAVE RECEIVED NO ANSWER RE NASA APPROVAL OF THE JOINT USE OF ERTS-B DATA, BUT WE UNDERSTAND NASA REVIEWING MANY REQUESTS AND PROBABLY WILL BE PREPARED AGREE TO CENTO REQUEST.

C. US INCREASE IN MULTILATERAL SCIENTIFIC FUND-- ADDITIONAL FUNDS COULD PROBABLY BE FOUND BY TAKING MONEY FROM THE US FUNDS DEVOTED TO SEMINARS AND MEETINGS; HOWEVER, WE PROBABLY SHOULD NOT SUGGEST THIS. WE RECOMMEND ASSAR BE TOLD IN AN AFFIRMATIVE FASHION WE WOULD NEED TO EXAMINE SPECIFICS OF AN EXPANDED FUND OPERATION BEFORE DECIDING (WE SHOULD IN MEANTIME DETERMINE WHETHER THE REGIONALS WOULD LIKE TO GIVE THIS HIGH PRIORITY). CURRENT US CONTRIBUTION, WE NOTE, IS NOT TOO HIGH, BEING ONLY \$20,000.

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 SS-20 OMB-01 EA-11 AID-20 OIC-04

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EB-11 SY-10 SCI-06 NSF-04 NASA-04 ABF-01 TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3051

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D. MICROWAVE LINK--GUIDANCE ON MICROWAVE SURVEY TEAM IS FOUND IN STATE 40581. AS FOR POSSIBLE FINANCING OF THE QUETTA-MIRJAVEH LINK, WE PRESUME THAT THE NEW AID CRITERIA PROBABLY WOULD NOT EASILY PERMIT LOAN OR GRANTS FOR THIS KIND OF PROJECT BUT THAT POLITICAL USEFULNESS OF SUCH A PROJECT IS BEING EXAMINED IN WASHINGTON.

4. PUBLIC RELATIONS:

A. EEXPANDED CULTURAL-PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAMS--
OUR VIEW IS THAT WE SHOULD NOT BE OPPOSED IN PRINCIPLE TO AN EXPANDED PROGRAM, PARTICULARLY FOR CULTURAL AFFAIRS, BUT THAT WE SHOULD CAREFULLY EXAMINE THE SPECIFICS OF A WELL-DEISGNEED PROGRAM BEFORE MAKING ANY OPEN-ENDED COMMITMENTS.

B. PRINTING IMPRESSIONS AT RSC BEIRUT--WE ARE ALREADY PROVIDING A SUBSTANTIAL FLAT-OUT SUBSIDY FROM USIA'S BUDGET AND WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE INCREASED. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT COULD BE POINTED OUT TO SYG THAT CENTO COULD USE RSC FOR VARIOUS KINDS OF PRINTING JOBS, ABOVE THE SUBSIDIZED NUMBER OF IMPRESSIONS, AT LOWER RATES THAN CAN BE OBTAINED IN TURKEY; HOWEVER, SUCH
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REQUESTS BY CENTO WOULD HAVE TO BE PROGRAMMED MANY MONTHS IN ADVANCE.

C. FELLOWSHIPS FOR 20TH ANNIVERSARY--WE UNDERSTAND SYG INTERESTED IN FELLOWSHIPS SIMILAR TO THOSE FOR 10TH ANNIVERSARY, I.E., AT US INSTITUTIONS. IN OUR OPINION, FELLOWSHIPS AT REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS HAVE WORKED OUT FAIRLY WELL AND EMPHASIS SHOULD BE ON REGIONAL SCHOOLS. SUCH AN EMPHASIS IN ALSO LESS EXPENSIVE. WE PRESUME THAT CU CAN ESTIMATE WHETHER US FUNDS COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR ADDED FELLOWSHIPS.

D. SEMINAR ON REGIONAL TV AND RADIO COMMUNICATIONS--
TEIL HAS ALREADY INFORMED THE SYG THAT IF US (AID) WOULD TRY TO MAKE AVAILABLE A US CONSULTANT TO HELP ORGANIZE AN AGENDA FOR A SEMINAR OR CONFERENCE ON THIS SUBJECT AND THAT THIS INDIVIDUAL WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO JOIN THE REGIONAL COORDINATORS AT A JOINT PLANNING MEETING AT A DATE AND PLACE TO BE DETERMINED IN ADVANCE OF THE ACTUAL HOLDING OF THE MEETING. ASSISTANCE OF USIA MAY HAVE TO BE SOUGHT TO RECRUIT SUCH AN EXPERT, OF COURSE .

5. MILITARY:

A. ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN--WE PRESUME DEPARTMENT WILL EXPLAIN OUR POLITICAL POSITION ON THIS SUBJECT; HOWEVER, CHIEF, US ELEMENT CENTO, HAS SENT A NUMBER OF MESSAGES ON MATTER, PARTICULARLY CONCERNING A PLAN FOR IRANIAN MODIFICATION OF THE PAKISTAN M-47 TANKS. POSSIBILITY OF IRANIAN MODIFICATION PROGRAM FOR PAKISTANI M-47S HAS ALSO BEEN MENTIONED BY PAK FONMIN TO SYG.

B. MILITARY CRYPTOGRAPHIC SYSTEM FOR CENTO-- AGAIN, CHIEF, US ELEMENT CENTO, HAS SENT MESSAGES TO JCS ON THIS SUBJECT, WHICH HAS BEEN DISCUSSED FOR SOME 12 YEARS. LATEST WAS DTG 031550Z JAN 74.

C. KEEPING CURRENT LEVELS OF CENTO MILITARY ACTIVITIES--EMB BELIEVES IT USEFUL TO KEEP CENTO MILITARY ACTIVITIES AT CURRENT LEVEL; HOWEVER, THERE IS A DIRECT CONNECTION BETWEEN POLITICAL GUIDANCE PAPER (SEE ABOVE) NOW BEING NEGOTIATED AND FUTURE CENTO MILITARY ACTIVITIES.

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AGAIN, WE WOULD CONCLUDE IT WISES TO PUT A BRAKE ON ANY INCLINATIONS FOR CENTO MILITARY AUTHORITIES TO MAKE PLANS FOR REGIONAL CONFLICTS (SEE ANKARA 1654).
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